Remarks

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 12, 15, 17, 18, and 20 have been amended. Applicants assert that the claims are in condition for allowance as set forth more fully below.

Objections

Claims 4 and 12 have been objected to due to the inclusion of "ALN" or "AI7N." These claims have been amended to replace those terms with the term "AIN." Accordingly, the objections may be withdrawn.

112 Rejections

Claim 17 is rejected for lack of antecedent basis for "that apparatus." This language has been removed and replaced by alternative language that does have proper antecedent basis. Accordingly, this rejection may be withdrawn.

102 Rejections

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Lamb (US Pat 6,747,970). To the extent these rejections still apply to the currently pending claims, Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claims 1-6

Claim 1 recites an apparatus comprising a server for receiving an originating telephone number and a destination telephone number in response to a command from the Internet-enabled device wherein at least the destination telephone number is imported from a database external to the server. Such recitations are supported by FIG. 2, particularly Internet accessible phonebook database 60 and the related discussion. These recitations are not disclosed by Lamb.

Lamb provides a user agent that a user may access via a user agent interface to request that a call may be established. Lamb only discloses that the user agent is provided with the origination and destination numbers and does not disclose that these numbers are imported from a database external to the server upon which the user agent is

executing. Instead, Lamb appears to be a closed system where only those numbers stored by the user agent or provided manually by the user are used to generate the request for the PSTN call and as such, Lamb fails to disclose the use of the database external to the server. Because Lamb fails to disclose all of the elements of claim 1, claim 1 is allowable over Lamb for at least these reasons.

Dependent claims 2-6 are also allowable for at least the same reasons. However, one or more of these dependent claims are allowable for additional reasons. For example, claim 3 recites that the server transmits the call request to a service control point of the telecommunications network and wherein the call request includes instructions that cause the service control point to establish the connection through operation of at least one switch of the telecommunications network that is in communication with the service control point. Lamb does not disclose a service control point being used to establish the call by communicating with the switches such that claim 3 is allowable over Lamb for this additional reason.

Claims 7-14

Claim 7 recites a method of enabling a calling party to initiate a telephone call, the method comprising receiving a request to initiate the telephone call from a first device of a non-secure data network at a first server of a secure data network, wherein the first device is associated with the calling party, ...receiving a destination telephone number by the first device accessing an online telephone directory of a database maintained on the non-secure data network. These recitations are supported by FIG. 2, particularly database 60, secure network 50, and non-secure network 52 as well as server 56. Lamb fails to disclose these recitations.

As discussed above, Lamb does not disclose that the destination number comes from anywhere other than the user agents themselves or manual entry by the user. There is no disclosure of a database maintained on a non-secure network while the server implementing the user agent resides on a different secure network where the destination number comes from the database on the non-secure network. Accordingly, Lamb fails to disclose all of the elements of claim 7. Because Lamb fails to disclose all of the elements, claim 7 is allowable over Lamb for at least these reasons.

7

Dependent claims 7-14 are also allowable for at least the same reasons. However, one or more of these dependent claims are allowable for additional reasons. For example, claim 9 recites transmitting the call request comprises transmitting instructions to a service control point of the telecommunications network, the method further comprising the service control point generating commands to at least one switch to connect a call between the originating telephone number and the destination telephone number. Lamb does not disclose a service control point being used to establish the call by communicating with the switches such that claim 9 is allowable over Lamb for this additional reason. Furthermore, claim 10 recites the service control point performing a look-up in an associated database to determine whether the requested call should be completed. Lamb does not disclose the service control point and also does not disclose any look-up occurring within the telecommunications network to determine whether the call should be completed such that claim 10 is allowable over Lamb for these additional reasons.

Claims 15-17

Claim 15 recites a computer readable medium wherein instructions are executed to receive a destination telephone number by a user of the Internet-enabled device providing a personal identification number after having accessed the first server that allows access to a telephone directory database of the secure network and receiving a selection of the destination number from the telephone directory via the Internet-enabled device. These recitations are supported at paragraph [0028]. Lamb fails to disclose these recitations.

Lamb discloses that the user agent maintains some telephone numbers. Lamb also discloses that that user agent may require the user to log-in via username/password prior to having any access to the user agent and its functions. However, in Lamb there is no separate PIN required to access the telephone number information of the user agent after the user has already logged in to the user agent. Thus, Lamb fails to disclose the entry of the PIN after having accessed the user agent server and therefore, fails to disclose all of the elements of claim 15. Because Lamb fails to disclose all of the elements, claim 15 is allowable over Lamb for at least these reasons.

Dependent claims 16 and 17 depend from an allowable claim 15 and are also allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claims 18-20

Claim 18 recites a system for allowing a calling party to initiate a telephone call from an Internet-enabled device, the system comprising a server of a secure network separate from the IP network for receiving an originating telephone number and a destination telephone number in response to a command from the Internet-enabled device wherein the destination telephone number comes from a selection made by the Internet-enabled device from a telephone directory of the IP network. These recitations are supported by FIG. 2 and the related discussion. Lamb fails to disclose these recitations.

Lamb fails to disclose that the destination telephone number comes from a selection made by the device from a telephone directory of the IP network, where the IP network is different than the secure network upon which the server resides. In Lamb, there is no discussion of a separate network from the network where the user agent server is located, where the separate network is an IP network having a telephone directory and where the destination number comes from a selection made within the telephone directory. Accordingly, Lamb fails to disclose all of the elements of claim 18, and claim 18 is allowable over Lamb for at least these reasons.

Dependent claims 19 and 20 depend from an allowable base claim and are also allowable for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

Applicants assert that the application including claims 1-20 is in condition for allowance. Applicants request that the application be reconsidered in view of the amendments and remarks above and that a Notice of Allowability be provided. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned.

No fees are believed due. However, please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3025.

Respectfully submitted,

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